

From: Michael W. Loder
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/24/02 6:10pm
Subject: proposed settlement

Renata Hesse:

I do not think the settlement which the Justice Department is proposing is in the best interest of either the American public or computer users anywhere. It certainly does not appear to meet the criteria of punishment for an illegal act.

I am particularly troubled by the fact that Microsoft will be allowed to continue to demand exclusive licensing agreements of computer manufacturers, forcing them to include whichever version of the Windows Operating System that Microsoft chooses AND prevent them from offering other choices.

If this monopoly is to end, I believe that Microsoft must be prevented from entering into any exclusive licensing agreement, allowing manufacturers to sell their products with any operating system they choose-or even none at all. Afterall, if I buy a Ford, I'm not restricted to always buying my gas at Ford service stations, am I?

Thank you for your attention to these thoughts and your inclusion of this letter with the public comments. Michael W. Loder

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